THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The term 'welfare' has been incorporated in section 2(k) of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007.

(c) The Government is implementing The Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons' under which financial assistance is provided to suitable NGOs for running various projects for the welfare of the senior citizens. Some of these include maintenance of old age homes; maintenance of respite care homes and continuous care homes for older persons; multi service centres; Mobile Medicare Units; day care centres for Alzheimer/Dementia patients; physiotherapy clinics for older persons; help lines and counseling centres etc.

Industrial training to SCs and STs

†2969. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme to provide various types of industrial training to the people of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the country to make them economically self-dependent;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The schemes which contain components to upgrade skill of SCs/STs for income and employment generation are Scheme of 'Vocational Training in Tribal areas', Scheme of 'Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organizations working for SCs' and the scheme of special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes sub plan. In addition National Scheduled Castes Financial Development Corporation and National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation provide skill development training to SCs for industrial training in various trades.

(c) Does not arise.

Employment of disabled persons

2970. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:
DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Budget Speech, February 2008, promised to employ one lakh disabled persons in private sector in 2008-09;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government proposes legislation whereby the disabled persons could get reservation in private sector; and

(d) the number of adult disabled persons in the country and how many are employed in State/Public/Private Sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) and (b) In the Budget Speech for the year 2007-08 the Finance Minister had announced a Scheme for reimbursing the employers' share of Employees Provident Fund and Employees State Insurance for a period of three years for physically challenged employees in the organized sector, with a salary limit of Rs. 25,000 per month. Government would provide this incentive to support the creation of 100,000 jobs every year in the organized sector for physically challenged persons.

As an outcome of this Budget statement, a Scheme "Incentives to Employers in the Private Sector for Providing Employment to Persons with Disabilities" is being implemented *w.e.f.* 01.04.2008.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) According to Census 2001, the population of persons with disabilities in the age group of 20 years and above was 142 lakh. The number of workers with disabilities is 75.6 lakh. Disaggregated data of workers in the State/Public/Private Sector is not available.

Percentage of reservation

2971. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) why the percentage for reservation of SCs in Union services has not been increased inspite of increase in the Population as per Census 2001;

(b) the efforts made by his Ministry with D.O.P.T. on this subject;

(c) if not, who is responsible for this default; and

(d) the action proposed to give constitutional justice to SCs and STs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (d) The quantum of reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs in case of direct recruitment to Group C and D posts, normally attracting candidates from a locality or region has been revised, in July, 2005 keeping in view, the figures of the 2001 census.

Disability certificates

2972. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state: